

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Appl. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

[Continuation of Application No.: 09/259,300  
filed March 1, 1999]

119(e) of the following two United States Provisional Applications: Serial No. 60/033,572 filed December 19, 1996 and Serial No. 60/039,504 filed March 4, 1997. Each of the foregoing applications and provisional applications is incorporated herein by reference.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

After granting this application a filing date, please cancel claims 1-68, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims 69-91:

69. (New) An insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and a polymeric processing aid, wherein said pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.5% by weight and is chemically stable.

70. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of at least about 97% by weight.

71. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 70, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97 to about 99.5% by weight.

72. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 26 to about 31 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>.

73. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 36 to about 40 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>.

74. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the polymeric processing aid is present in amount of about 0.5 to about 3% by weight.

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75. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the polymeric processing aid is a vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate copolymer.

76. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the pellet has a moisture content of up to about 0.3% by weight.

77. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the pellet contains no surfactants.

78. (New) The insecticidal pellet according to claim 69, wherein the pellet contains no organic solvents.

79. (New) A chemically stable insecticidal pellet comprising about 97 to about 99.5% by weight of acephate as an active ingredient, about 0.5 to about 3% by weight of a polymeric processing aid, a bulk density of about 26 to about 31 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>, and having a moisture content up to about 0.3% by weight.

80. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 79, wherein the polymeric processing aid is a vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate copolymer.

81. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 79, wherein the pellet contains no surfactants.

82. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 79, wherein the pellet contains no organic solvents.

83. (New) A chemically stable insecticidal pellet consisting essentially of acephate and up to about 3% by weight of a polymeric processing aid, wherein said pellet has a moisture

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content of up to about 0.3% by weight and remains substantially free-flowing without caking or compaction under drum storage conditions.

85. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 84, wherein said acephate is present in an amount of about 97 to about 99.5% by weight.

86. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 26 to about 31 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>.

87. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein said pellet has a bulk density of about 36 to about 40 lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>.

88. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein the polymeric processing aid is present in amount of about 0.5 to about 3% by weight.

89. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein the polymeric processing aid is a vinylpyrrolidone-vinyl acetate copolymer.

90. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein the pellet contains no surfactants.

91. (New) The chemically stable insecticidal pellet according to claim 83, wherein the pellet contains no organic solvents.--